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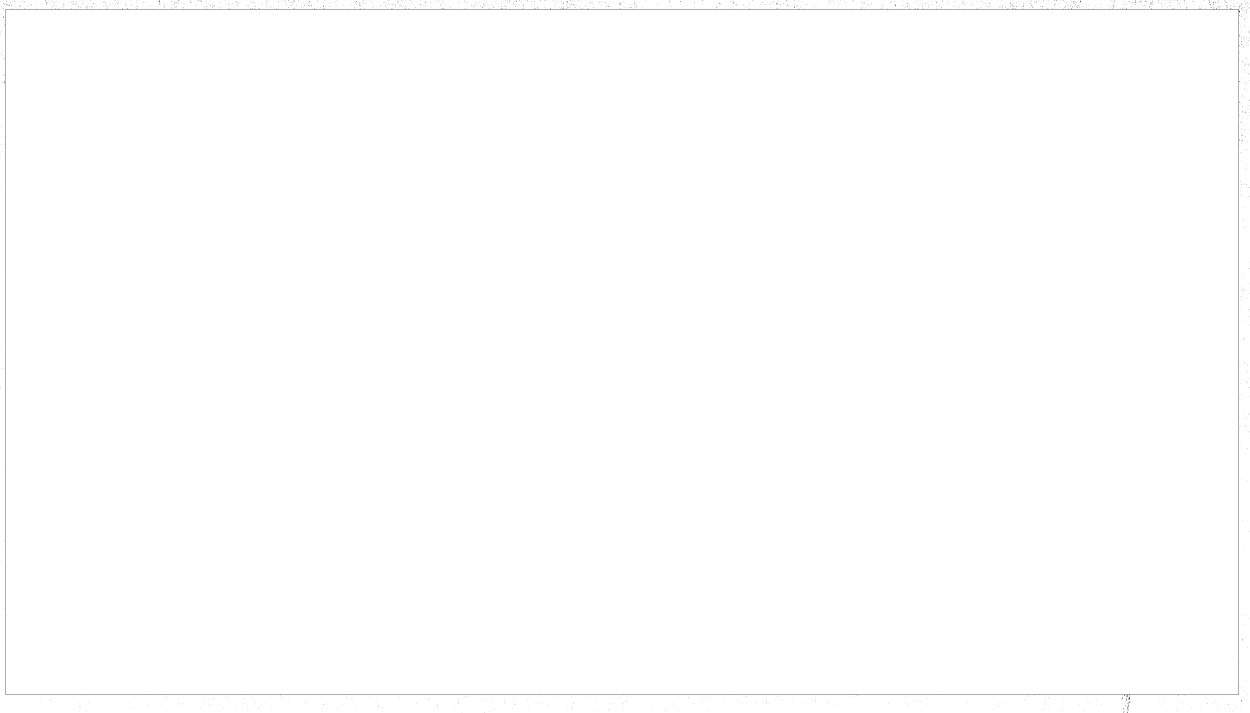

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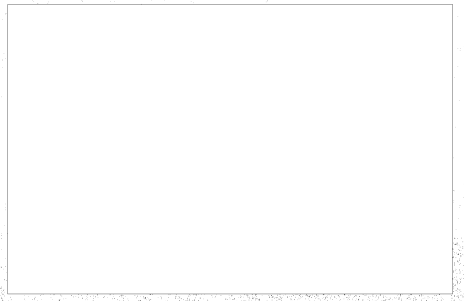
A Summary of the Report to the Joint Conference of the Educational Section Chiefs of Pingyuan Province

New China Monthly, by Kung K'uo-ju, Peiping, 15 Mar 1950



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SECURITY INFORMATION

A SUMMARY OF THE REPORT TO THE [redacted]G OF THE JOINT CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL SECTION ON CHIEFS OF PINGYUAN PROVINCE

Kung Kuo-[redacted], Deputy Chief of the Department of Education of the Pingyuan People's Government

Great achievements have been made in education since the establishment of the Pingyuan People's Government owing to the faithful execution of a sound policy by the educational chiefs of the various special district and hsien governments and owing to the common efforts by the teachers in the primary schools and winter schools. There were only 2,700 winter schools and 600 regular adult schools last year; but there are now 12,000 winter schools attended by 700,000 peasants, and 13,000 primary schools enrolling 740,000 children. Furthermore, most of the areas have conducted training classes for teachers. As a result of the new emphasis on school inspection, two third of the primary schools have begun to operate normally; new experience in teaching and in handling children has been accumulated.

However, these achievements are far from attaining the standards which should prevail under a new people's democracy. For instance, only about 31.6 percent of the school-age children are now in schools; the ideological level of the teachers is still so low that they cannot interpret correctly the text books; the number of winter school students amounts to less than 5 percent of the total population.

This was the background of this meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to define our educational policy and task to

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exchange work experience, to improve various educational programs so that we would be well prepared to adjust ourselves to the new cultural crisis and to fulfill the educational objectives stipulated in the Common Program.

(1)(Omitted) [sic]

(2) We must fulfill within this year the following tasks:

(A) We should strengthen the winter schools and strive to transform or reorganize 10,000 winter schools into regular all-year-round adult schools. We should urge the local village governments to conduct adult education on an experimental basis so as to acquire more valuable experience for conducting literacy education in 1951 on a gigantic scale.

In the past we did not recognize the role of social education in national reconstruction. In other words, we more or less neglected the social educational program. Now we must overcome such an erroneous viewpoint. We should do the following things: (a) We should strengthen the winter schools through rallying the production movement (b) We must establish as many winter schools as possible; ~~but~~ then we should endeavor to strengthen them (c) ~~The government should appoint~~ the head of the village council (or the chairman of the village people's assembly) can be ~~as~~ the principal of the winter school and ~~recruit~~ teachers in the local primary schools can be recruited as the teaching staff of the winter school. In the meantime, the government should appoint a number of fulltime teachers to the winter school and organize the village intellectuals and primary school students to render assistance to the winter school. (d) The government should grant 15 catties of rice each month to the winter school in poor

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villages to provide for the general expenses and grant 15 catties of rice to each winter school teacher who is badly in need of such help (e) We should eliminate illiteracy completely with well-organized plans.

(B) We should greatly strengthen present primary schools and use them to obtain more valuable experience and to train more teachers. We should henceforth carry out the following measures: (a) We should urge all teachers to ~~keep~~ maintain a teaching record and ~~to make~~ so that lecture notes ~~before~~ when they go to classes ~~so that~~ they ~~teachers~~ will have ~~to study the textbooks and to~~ them as references to give a correct interpret ~~them correctly.~~ tion of the teaching materials. (b) We should by reasonal precepts and human example develop the conscientiousness of the children so that a democratic discipline may be established. (c) Village schools teachers should use more than one form of teaching. (d) In this time of austerity, we should use leisure time for production activities so as to solve ~~the~~ all financial difficulties. (e) We should develop the various business rules and practices into regular and purposeful administrative systems.

(C) To raise the quality standards of the teachers and train more teachers we must (a) improve the teachers colleges, lengthen the required school years for teachers, and teach them various instruction techniques of practical value; (b) instruct the teachers on the rotation basis for training at least once a year and (c) organize teachers' study classes.

(D) We should improve the spare time educational facilities for government workers. We must understand that our cadres now in the government service are valuable assets to our country because

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they have years of experience. Accordingly we must draw up plans to give them training and increase their cultural level. Each hsien should set up a spare time school with at least one full time teacher for each class or grade. The spare time schools should constitute a part of the regular educational system. Students who pass the final examination will receive a diploma entitling them to go to the special intermediate schools for workers and peasants, leading to study at the People's University, after which they may become scholars in a matter of a few years. We should find effective measures to enable the cadres in villages to satisfy their thirst for knowledge.

Generally speaking, these cadres should be admitted to local adult schools.

In addition, we should improve spare time education for workers.

(3) The following are essential for good leadership:

(A) Adequate research work and accurate statistical surveys.

(B) Vocational training and improved school supervision

(C) Sound finance in operation of schools following strictly the economic principle of maximum result with the least effort.

(D) Correct emphasis of our activities at each stage of development and development of experience in systematic administration.

(E) Planning before undertaking any activity and avoidance of doing things without method.

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The meeting requested the education chiefs to report the decision of the meeting to their superiors upon their return to their posts; in the meantime, they should instil the spirit of this meeting to their assistants and teachers so as to win their support in fulfilling the educational objectives

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